INSIDE: Post-grads vote against student federation merger — *SEE PAGE 3*

THE McGILL DAILY

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Brundtland Commission not enough

Ecofeminist Judith Plant advocates bioregionalism

BY SARAH HINNERS

Environmental activist, feminist, and writer Judith Plant spoke to about 100 people at McGill last Thursday, accusing the United Nations Brundtland Commission of being unrealistic in its goal to bring the rest of the world up to Western standards of living by the year 2030.

The Brundtland Commission was set up in 1992 by the UN to examine the planet's major environmental problems in anticipation of last year's Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Plant criticized the Brundtland Commission and working groups like it for trying to address problems like the depletion of the ozone layer and water pollution while still encouraging Western-style pursuit of profit. "They do not give us a way out of the values, lifestyles and supporting institutions that created the problems in the first place," she said.

She pointed out that if the rest of the world's population were to attempt to live at present North American/Western European levels of consumption, we would need to find two more planets to sustain ourselves.

Plant pointed to the growing power of multi-national corporations in environmental disputes such as Galiano Island and Clayoquot Sound. Governments are now unable, she said, "to make decisions based primarily on ecological principles" in the face of the demands of the economy for ever-increasing returns.

"Surely our political system as it stands must be seen for what it has become — the handmaiden of the transnational."

Plant recommends local solutions to apparently overwhelming global problems. The first step in her plan is a change in lifestyle and in how we relate to the natural world.

The understanding that "our species is one among many and that we are interdependent" is the basis of Plant's strategy of bioregionalism, a community-based restructuring of economics and human relationships that attempts to put as little strain as possible on the local environment.

This is where ecofeminism comes in.

"An ecofeminist perspective enhances feminism's basic message by adding that all of life is seen by the dominant culture to be on this Earth for the use and convenience of the elite."

Plant gave several examples of communities that have turned to local agriculture and investment not only to create a closer community, but also to decrease the size of the population's "ecological footprint", or the area of land it takes to support that population's food and waste disposal needs.

This solution also provides a certain amount of autonomy from the pressures of the global and national economies. "We in the privileged societies of the North are somehow addicted to money and materialism... ecological considerations should not come after profit margins have been secured, but before," she said.

Some members of the audience expressed concern that in seeking local solutions to local problems, Plant had not addressed the larger global issues detailed in the Brundtland Commission report. Lisa Gallagher, a U3 Geography/Environmental Science student said, "Working at the community level is essential but... she didn't seem to offer much of a solution for people who were looking for a bit broader perspective."

Others, however, were encouraged by this emphasis on local efforts. QPIRG part-time publicity coordinator and McGill graduate Michèle Leslie said that she "would like this talk to represent something of what QPIRG is trying to do. We're trying to provide students with an alternative... in our own student environment."

McGill hosts the 10th annual Québec Engineering Competition...

McGill students solving real-world problems



DAILY PHOTO BY CHANTELLE CLEMENTS

McGill engineering student

BY ANNA MARTINEZ

McGill civil engineering student Adam Singer has come up with a solution that may save hundreds of homes from the bush fires that have recently plagued places like California and Australia.

He has invented the HALO system, which protects homes by pumping a film of water up onto the roof to extinguish the embers which fly off the branches of burning trees. Singer said his system is both practical and inexpensive.

Singer's invention was one of the many entries in the 10th annual Québec Engineering Competition, hosted by the McGill Engineering Faculty last Friday and Saturday. This competition is the regional final for the Canadian Engineering Competion which will be held this year at the University of Toronto.

Sylvie Tran, a mechanical engineering student and an organizer of the event, said that there was a record number of competitors this year. Of the 38 teams which competed, 14 came from McGill.

According to Singer and fellow students Chris Carozza and Pratik Patel, McGill's Engineering Faculty was "extremely supportive and encouraging" to students who wished to participate in the competion. The faculty paid for students' entrance fees and supplies for the competition.

The competition is divided into five categories. In the Entrepreneurial Design category, new products are presented and students are encouraged to invent new systems (such as the HALO system) that will benefit society.

In the Corporate Design category, corporations suggest modifications to already-existing products and students work on the changes. In Explanatory Communications, participants are tested on their ability to explain complicated technical processes in lay terms. In the Editorial Communications category students attempt to find solutions to the effect of new technology on society, and in the Extemporaneous Debate, students participate in an impromptu debate where they are tested on their ability to talk in real-speak on technology issues without preperation.

The theme of the competition was "A World to Protect", and students were "sensitized...to the delicate partnership between humankind and the environment."

Hydro Québec, Northern Telecom, Ordre des ingenieurs du Québec and Pratt & Whitney Canada helped sponsor the event.

feature

Big brother is a microchip

Privacy in a computerized society

BY CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR

Have you ever filed a tax return? Then you're in Revenue Canada's Taxpayer Master File. Applied for a passport? You're in the computer memory of External Affairs. Participated in a demonstration? You may be among the 54,000 countersubversion files of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

Big Brother has arrived. And he's a microchip.

From Statistics Canada to the Ministry of Human Resources, the estimated 2700 data banks of personal information run by 160 federal agencies contain approximately 12 dossiers on every Canadian man, woman and child, raising concerns that in the computer age, the individual's right to privacy has become a thing of the past.

"These files contain your address, telephone number, Social Insurance Number, where you work, how long you've been working there, how much you make, whether you're married or single, what charities you contribute to," said Sally Jackson, Director of Public Affairs at the Privacy Commission in Ottawa. "If you start to look at the details contained in all the separate files, the government knows quite a bit about you."

Given the status of personal information as a multibillion dollar global business, critics warn the right to privacy will be relegated to horse and buggy status on the coming superhighway.

"The next technology that we haven't got a hold on is the information superhighway, the convergence of all these systems," said Jackson. "The whole purpose of it is the transmission of information, and of course it will transport personal information. The problem is that it's going to be a shared network. Government has privacy legislation and business doesn't. It's basically a free-for-all."

Though the information superhighway is billed

Please see on page 5...

Students' Society of McGill University

The Following questions shall be placed on the ballot for the Winter Referendum Period to be held on March 8, 9, and 10, 1994.

Question One

Compte tenu du fait que

L'Association des Étudiantes et des Étudiants de l'Université McGill est un nom d'une longueur encombrante.

Et par ailleurs, compte tenu du fait que:

Cette traduction est incorrecte

Nous proposons:

Par l'entremise d'un référendum, un amendement à la traduction officielle du nom de l'association:

L'Association des Étudiantes et des Étudiants de l'Université McGill serait remplacé par:

L'Association Étudiante de l'Université McGill (l'AÉUM). (Oui/Non/Pas d'Opinion)

Question Two

Pending the acceptance of the Judicial Board of the Constitutionality of the Question

Given that question 12 of the Canadian Red Cross Blood Donor Questionnaire states this:

> The following activities put you at risk for AIDS:
> - if male, having sex with another male, even once
> - sharing needles or taking street drugs by needle
> - receiving regular treatment with blood or blood products
> - accepting money or drugs in exchange for sex
> - being the sexual partner of someone who has taken part in any of the above activities, who has contracted AIDS or has tested positive for AIDS

Given that article 2, section 2.3 of the Students' Society of McGill University Constitution states this:

> All Society endeavours shall be undertaken with full respect for human dignity and without discrimination on the basis of, but not limited to, gender, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, language or social class.

Should the Students' Society of McGill University withdraw its support of Canadian Red Cross Blood Drives? (Yes/No/No Opinion)

Question Three

Daily Publications Society

Do you agree that the Constitution of the Daily Publications Society be amended to include the following article:

7.2 The Publication Society shall hold a referendum not less than once every three years with the purpose of ascertaining if the members of the Publications Society are willing to continue their financial support of the Publications Society as of the date of the referendum. (Yes/No/No Opinion)

[Pending completed petition form]

Question Four

Should the proposed amendment adding Article 7.2 to the Constitution of the Daily Publications Society be accepted,

Do you agree that the first of the proposed referendums outlined in Article 7.2 be held no later than April, 1995? (Yes/No/No Opinion)

[Pending completed petition form]

Grads to get FEUQed?

BY DAVE LEY

QUÉBEC'S graduate students' federation is considering a merger with the largest student federation in the province.

At a meeting last Saturday of the Regroupement des Associations de Cycle Supérieurs du Québec (RACSQ), it was proposed a committee to negotiate terms of a merger with the Fédération Étudiante Universitaire du Québec (FEUQ) be created.

Delegates from Sherbrooke and Laval universities had originally brought forward a motion to start the fusion process of the two organizations immediately. The motion was amended however, to allow a negotiating committee another month to consider the merger's impact before a final vote.

McGill's grad association, the Post Graduate Students' Society (PGSS), voted against the final motion.

Patrick Crowley, president of the PGSS, said a merger of RACSQ and FEUQ could have negative implications.

"As graduate students we have had a lot of autonomy with RACSQ," said Crowley. "If we join FEUQ we could lose some of that autonomy."

Crowley said on a personal level he could possibly accept a merger of the two organizations, depending on the outcome of the negotiations.

The PGSS was the only association to vote against the motion. Delegates from Sherbrooke and Laval voted in favour while the other three delegations from Concordia, Rimouski and the Polytechnique abstained.

Canadian Grads meet

While delegates from RACSQ convened on the McGill campus, a meeting of the National Graduate Council, the graduate students' wing of the Canadian Federation of Students, also took place this weekend.

Michael Temelini, a McGill graduate student who is the National executive representative for graduate students in the Federation, took part in the meeting.

Temelini said issues such as copyright laws pertaining to graduate students' work, grad taxation, and accreditation laws in the province were discussed.

See Grad Briefs on this page.

GRAD BRIEFS

Equal representation for women

The Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS) Council has decided to put an end to the chronic underrepresentation of women in student government by making equal gender representation on all its committees a constitutional requirement.

"Women constitute over 50 per cent of post-graduates and there are very few women involved in the political process," said PGSS President Patrick Crowley. He believes the gender parity provisions will make the electoral system fairer and more progressive.

The resolution to amend the PGSS constitution was approved on its second reading during the PGSS Council's monthly meeting last Wednesday. The decision to have both genders equally represented on committees was taken in response to recommendations made by the Ad-hoc Committee on Electoral Reform (ACER).

Theoretically, members of the different committees will be chosen from two lists, one for female candidates and another for male candidates, on a system of proportional representation. In practice, candidates are usually not forthcoming and Council members have to seek them out. If gender equity cannot be achieved within a month of committee openings, positions will become open to individuals of any gender.

The vote to entrench gender parity in the constitution effectively defeated an alternative resolution which favoured a non-constitutional avenue of reform. This resolution proposed the formation of a committee to look into the problem of the lack of spontaneous women candidatures for committee positions.

In addition to gender equity, Council has also modified its electoral procedures for executive positions. Single candidates will no longer simply be acclaimed. Candidates must be confirmed by a majority of voters. If this is not attained, Council will vote for individuals to fill the vacant positions.

Students need rights defended

Council voted unanimously to hold a referendum asking post-graduate students to approve a two-dollar increase in their fees to create a fund which would assist aggrieved students in defending their rights. The referendum will be held March 8 to 11 during the executive elections.

The need for the trust fund was recommended by the PGSS Sub-committee on Student Support, which was formed by Council in October 1993.

In its report to Council, the sub-committee explained that it was formed "after a long and difficult debate at the October 1993 PGSS Council meeting to extend due support to a graduate student that had experienced a violation of both their personal human rights and student rights at McGill." The student was not named and the details of the case are being kept confidential.

If the proposal for the trust fund is approved, student fees will increase by $24 000.

—by Alex Carrasco

events

• **Philosophy students!** Deadline for philosophy undergraduate journal is this Friday. See poster on the 9th floor of Leacock. Call Jason at 844-2013 for more information.

• **Outing Club** meets every Wednesday in Lea 132 at 7:30. There will be telemark skiing movies after the meeting.

• **Join other parents and their children (under 5).** Wednesday 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Church of Montreal. 3415 Simpson Street.

• **Submit! Queery the new LBGM newsletter is accepting submissions for its March issue.** Looking for articles, poetry, art work, reviews. Leave submissions outside the LBGM office (Shatner 432). Pseudo names acceptable, but leave your real name and number.

• **Women in Science and Engineering** will be holding a meeting in Shatner 423 at 6 pm today.

• **McGill student video festival** on April 7th and 8th. Seeking submissions in VHS or film format. Submissions accepted until March 31rst in DESA box (porters office-Arts building) For more info contact Allison 284-3630 or Malve 284-1996.

• **Players Theatre presents a public hearing on the life and struggle of freedom fighter Angela Davis.** Presented at McGill Players Theatre, 3480 McTavish Street on the 15, 16, 17 and 19 of February at 8:00 pm. $3.00 for students and seniors and $7.00 for adults.

• **McGill Christian Fellowship,** 7:00pm at the Presbyterian College on the 18th of February. Topic: Ruth Lewis speaks on relationship.

• **McGill Hellenic Students Association General Assembly** on March 4th, 6:00 pm at MACES, 3437 Peel. New executives will be elected.

• **Caribbean Students Society Ski Trip** Sunday March 6th, 1994. Ski Morin Heights in the Laurentians. Contact Renee at 938-1382 by Friday the 18th for information or downpayment.

• **At the Cross Roads! Action-Rebuts invites you for an ecological, democratic and resourceful management of our waste.** Come in bright colors. February 16th at 9:30 am at the Headquaters of Hydro Quebec. 75 Rene Levesque. For more information call Gabrielle at 398- 7457

• **International Socialists meeting on Rap, Racism and Resistance.** 1455 de Maisonneuve W., Rm H-771, Hall Building., Concordia. Today, 7:30 pm.

• **Womens Union general meeting** on Friday, the 18th at 4:30 in Shatner 423.

• **McGill Chaplaincy** presents a symposium on Power and Truth. Pannel discussion at February 17th, 7:30 pm in Leacock 232.

NOTICE:

The showing of the film "NOT A LOVE STORY" and the subsequent panel discussion scheduled to take place on Thursday has been postponed until after reading week. Further info will be published in coming issues.

The Black Student Network of McGill

presents Prof. Hilary Beckles, Head of the History Dept. at the University of the West Indies, lecturing on Caribbean Women and Resistance to Slavery. This Friday, February 18th, Stewart Biology Building S 1/4, 1205 Dr. Penfield Avenue, 7 pm.

Admission $4 General $3 Students. For ticket information please call 398-6815. Sponsored by AUS (Arts Undergraduate Society), QPIRG, SSMU, EDUS (Education Undergradute Society), Marvel Travel (6484 Victoria Ave., 735-4242).

World Watch

Liberian woes still unresolved

The threat of renewed civil war seems to be looming on the Liberian horizon once again. United Nations officials have expressed concern over the failure of warring factions to disarm themselves.

At the completion of the Cotonou peace conference last August, various groups agreed to the setting up of a Liberian National Transitional Government within thirty days. One of the tasks of the transitional government was to initiate a process of disarmament, assisted by a number of neighbouring countries. But Charles Taylor, the leader of the NPFL, one of the largest armed factions, has turned his back on the process and has refused to accept the conditions of the peace conference. Taylor's NPFL continues to battle the other main armed wing, Ulimo, in Bong and Lofa counties.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, Liberia was engaged in an intense civil war which claimed thousands of lives. Over the last couple of years, the various factions have tried to reconcile their differences under the guise of the United Nations and the West African orgainsation, Ecowas.

— West Africa, Feb. 7-13, 1994

Zaireans flee fighting

On January 23, Ugandan radio reported that over 800 Zaireans had fled fighting between government troops and the Movement of Farmers and Workers in the region of Kivu.

Ugandan radio has reported that since the begininning of 1993, over 20 000 people have taken refuge in Uganda as a result of the armed conflicts between government troops and various organisations.

Last week, French, Belgian, and American officials called on Zaire's rival parties to set up a government of national unity, "without delay to end the long running political crisis."

— West Africa, Feb.7-13, 1994

Chinese government trys to prevent "inferior" births

China's news agency 'Xinhua' reported that the Ministry of Health's draft law on sterilizations and abortions should "avoid new births of inferior quality and heighten the standards of the whole population." The Ministry is concerned with the "more than 10 million disabled persons who could have been prevented through better controls."

Informal policies have included forced sterilization of deaf women before marriage, and a ban on marriage between people with histories of venereal disease or mental illness.

—New American, Jan. 24, 1994

Labour Repression in Amazon

A human rights organization, America's Watch, has reported that the Brazilian government assembled over 5500 workers to burn parts of the Amazon. The land is used for cattle farming and reports indicate that workers are treated like slaves.

Interviews with over seventy labourers in the state of Mato Grosso, have indicated that they were lured by promises of free food, transport, and housing. The workers receive approximately US $70 for months of 'back-breaking' labour. Those who try to leave are hunted down by company thugs, beaten, and told they will be killed if they tried to escape again.

Brazilian officials have refused to acknowledge the accusations.

— Brazil Report, Jan. 13, 1994

HYDE PARK

Thirty hour famine raises money for World Vision

an opinion by Mark Sherman

It's November 30, 1993. I awake in the morning at 7:00am to eat and get ready for school. I take a shower, get dressed, and sit down for breakfast, with the morning *Gazette* in hand. As I glance over the headlines, the subject matter is redundant and familiar: "Companies sue to recover millions in surtax"; "It's official—Beauchamp to run for Mayor."; "Three tourists plead guilty to cheating at casino." ...etc. I finally arrive at the back page of the front section (which I normally never get to).

I begin reading, and then suddenly stop, my eyes locked on the title of a three paragraph article (the shortest in the section) which reads, "Third of the World goes hungry". The story is brief, factual, and to the point. Being on the back page, it doesn't qualify for the groundbreaking stories of politics, economics, and gossip, which we are so accustomed to. It *only* mentions, in a 'by the way' fashion, that one out of three people in the world lack the sufficient calories and/or nutrients to lead any conception of a productive life.

As I read on, I think to myself, "are we so caught up in our busy, affluent lives to realize what this means?" Certainly, our economic, political, and social worries are important and newsworthy. But problems are relative. And a company suing so that they can retrieve inappropriate taxation; or the *horrifying* discovery of our gambling institutions being cheated, simply should not compare with a third of humanity going hungry. 60 million people die each and every year from starvation, yet this essentially goes unnoticed, if only to be a new statistic on the back page of a newspaper.

We are so desensitized by our lives, as to what really matters, that we can finish reading such an article and actually go on with our day without much of a second thought. I feel that it is time that our generation begins to think twice about such blatant truths. With this much suffering in the world, we cannot remain detached.

During Environmental Awareness Week (Feb. 28-March 4), the SSMU Environmental Committee, in conjunction with other concerned clubs and individuals, will be holding a 30-hour famine to raise money for World Vision, an international development organization which works in the Third World, and within our society, to alleviate the hunger crisis we are now facing. The famine will begin at 9:00am, Thursday, March 3, and continue until 3:00 p.m., Friday, March 4.

For the event, many activities are planned to keep up the faminer's spirits while raising money and awareness for this worthwhile cause. The famine is a fun and effective way to contribute to helping the poor and hungry of the world, and to make others aware of the problem that exists.

So often we read about staggering statistics which affect our common planet and our fellow human beings. Rarely do we get a chance, as individuals, to make a difference, and demonstrate that we care. The famine *is* such a chance.

For more information on participating and/or pledging money for one of the faminers, please contact me at 333-2877, or Russell Kissoon at 987-6099.

LETTERS

Heterophobia

To the Daily:

I would like to congratulate the SSMU for rejecting LBGM's campaign of misinformation, by voting for the motion rescinding the earlier decision to ban blood drives. It is incomprehensible why Mary-Margaret Jones and Chris Carter are so heterophobic that they feel they must spread lies in order to deplete the much-needed blood supply.

They claim that question 12a asks the sexual preference of the donor; in fact, question 12a asks whether or not the donor has ever engaged in male-male sex. Therefore, while Chris Carter states that "51 per cent of Montréal gay men don't even have anal sex" in order to argue that the Canadian Red Cross is needlessly preventing gays from giving blood, in fact Mr. Carter's statistic indicates that a majority of Montreeal gays are not affected by question 12a. So much for that cry of discrimination and homophobia.

Jeremy Michelson
U3 Science

...LETTERS

Long live Religious library!

To the Daily:

I am writing to express my extreme frustration with your recent story on the closure of the religious studies library.

You began by announcing in your Monday issue that the closure of the library was to be ratified by Wednesday's Senate meeting. In fact, the issue of the library's closure will not come before Senate for quite some time yet. I am willing to concede that there was some confusion about when the issue would come before Senate, but it was still your mistake.

However, your reporter went on to alter his Wednesday coverage of the issue in the first page article, 'Library gossip all talk.' THE ISSUE OF THE IMPENDING CLOSURE OF THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES LIBRARY IS NOT ALL TALK. Dr. Ormsby (Director of Libraries) has willingly admitted that the closure of this wonderful library and the removal of its books to dreary old McLennan is being contemplated by McGill bureaucrats.

How dare you print such a misleading and irresponsible title on the first page of a campus-wide publication! In effect, the *Daily* screwed up on Monday and made a story of it on Wednesday. The *Daily* is always pretending to side with students against the evil McGill administration. But when you had the chance to really press the bureaucrats on an issue of obvious interest to the student body, and to advance an excellent cause, you sold out.

With the words, 'Library gossip all talk' you slandered a student movement attempting to fight an administration bent on ripping the guts out of one of the nicest study halls on campus.

I agree with a correpondant who wrote last week: the McGill *Daily* will only really be useful to students when it begins printing on two-ply sheets.

Gibran van Ert
U2 Arts

Graduate students "politely dismissed"

To the Daily:

We at the PGSS would like to bring to your attention some recent changes to McGill's "administration" charges. In particular, we are upset that even though the university is trying to increase the number of graduate students at McGill in proportion to the total, it has decided to increase student application fees from $28 to $60. Where are the cost justifications for a 114 % increase in this fee?

Also, won't this narrow down the number of prospective graduate students to be considered by the university? Not only this, but the university has also decided to change the late registration fee penalty so that graduate students have a much greater probability of being fined $100 rather than at the lower rate of $50.

Our representative, Nicola Dourambeis, spoke out against these fee changes. She was listened to and then was polititely dismissed. Ruth Promislow, the SSMU representative, said nothing.

Patrick Crowley
President, PGSS

Afrocentric Austin

To the Daily:

Dave Austin has done it again — a long Afrocentric piece held together with the most tenuous logical links and a flagrant disregard for fact ("The race for knowledge" — Feb.7).

To get it over with immediately, I shall answer your rhetorical question, "does the fact that Marx was not a white man, as far as the working definition of white goes...make his analysis more acceptable to us as black people?" The simple answer is no.

As easily as I can read and consider your article, Dave, without knowledge of your personal genetic codes, and as easily as you can read this response without knowing mine, anyone can pick up anything written by Marx, in the original or in translation, to evaluate his ideas.

Even if, for the sake of argument, Marx was the descendent of the Moors, he was no more responsible for the Moorish domination of the Mediterranean than any person of African descent can be today for the behaviour of their ancestors during slavery.

The point of bringing in Marx's alleged ancestry, so far as I can tell, is as a rhetorical device to laud the African influence on medieval Europe. Yet if the Africans "provided many of the tools necessary for the conquest of what we know as the 'Third World'" and we acknowledge "the murder, plunder, exploitation, and outright barbarity of" explorers like Marco Polo, Columbus and Vespucci, there is a problem of culpability. Because, if individuals are responsible for the actions of their ancestors the logical conclusion is that the Africans are responsible for the conquest of the New World. Casting blame about is fun, huh?

Dave Austin might heed his own plea for his readers to "challenge ourselves and our own notions of race and knowledge and evaluate to what extent false notions have been imposed on us and then internalized." Else his biological determinism will eventually be identified less euphemistically, though more accurately, as racism.

Kyla Henrikson
History

Boycott Pepsi-Cola!

To the Daily:

I am writing to urge that the McGill Student's Society adopt a resolution calling on McGill students to boycott Pepsi-Cola, and demanding that all Pepsi-Cola products be removed from the premises of McGill until either the Toronto Board of Education or Pepsi-Cola cancels the recent agreement giving Pepsi exclusive vending rights and advertising in Toronto public schools for three years in exchange for $1.14 million. A very dangerous precedent will be set if this corporate invasion of public education is not repelled.

If the deal is allowed to stand, it will become more and more difficult in the future to defend the principle of public funding for public education. Voters are fed up with increasingly regressive taxation. Politicians will find it all too easy to encourage unde-funded school boards to make private deals with corporations, which for their part find it much more pleasant to buy advertising than to pay taxes the disbursal of which they do not directly control.

The politicians can thus score political points by "holding the line on taxes" while corporations avoid the inconvenience of any serious public debate on the feasibility of raising revenue through fairer taxation.

As private interests become more involved in financing public education, the principle of public control over public education will also be increasingly threatened. Allowing corporations to set the agenda for the allocation of resources in the public sector gives them a purse-strings veto that only governments responsible to the electorate should have.

If we do not draw the line here, where will we draw it? At a Hudson's Bay Company teachership in Native Canadian history, perhaps? Or a Doritos chair in nutrition and health?

Mark Marshall
Graduate Studies, University of Toronto
B.A. McGill, 1988

Exclusionary politics?

To the Daily:

Re: "Violence against women: battling misconceptions," Jan. 31

Has it ever ocurred to Ms. Newton that the "white Western" feminist is trying to help women in general, no matter what their class, culture, race, religion, etc.? Obviously not. Judging from past commentaries, skin colour is a key issue for this "critic".

By classifying Western feminism as "white", she is automatically isolating ALL women (not to mention obliterating all work accomplished by Western women of colour) and condemning all races to classification. Haven't we been fighting against this? The feminist movement, as a whole, is intended to unite women! ALL women! Don't subdivide females. By doing so, Ms. Newton, you are splitting the movement at its seams.

The Shakti Womanist Collective is attempting to bring to its fore the issues of "world majority women". It is calling for "white" feminists to educate themselves about world majority women's issues. But, why is this organization for women of colour only? Such exclusionary politics would not be tolerated if initiated by "whites". Haven't we learned anything from the past? Are people too afraid of "political correctness" to speak out against such racism?!

It is racism.

These policies are no less racial because the "skin colours" are reversed. Would Ms. Newton tolerate a "white only" womanist collective? I wouldn't. If the Shakti Womanist Collective is suggecting that Western feminists educate themselves, why don't they offer to help in the education process? By doing so, ignorance would be minimized and stereotypes dispelled. The fight could be fought TOGETHER.

I invite the Shakti Womanist Collective to stop their exclusionary politics, and, more specifically, ask Ms. Newton to cease her "white" manhunt. Let's take the first step in strengthening the unification of the GLOBAL feminist movement together, NOT race against race.

Diane Barbaric
Arts U3

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Editorial Offices:
3480 McTavish St., Montréal, Qc., room B-03, H3A 1X9

Business & Advertising Office:
3480 McTavish St., Montréal, Qc., room B-17, H3A 1X9

editorial: (514) 398-6784
business/advertising: (514) 398-6790
fax: (514) 398-8318

co-ordinating editor: Dave Ley
co-ordinating news editor: Kristin Andrews
news editors: Liz Unna, Damion Stodola
culture editors: Melanie Newton, Pat Harewood
features editor: Dave Austin
science editor: —
layout & design editors: Kristen Peterson, Jason Ridgley
daily français: Marie-Violaine Boucher
photo editor: Marie-Louise Gariépy
liaison editor: Zack Taylor
sports editor: —

contributors: Chris Taylor, Chris Sheriden, Jeanna Steele, Kumbesan Sandrasegaran, Alex Carrasco, Sarah Hinners, Anna Martinez, Max Fransisco, Marie-josee Johnston, Chantelle Clements, David Kennedy, Kristen Boon, Joya Balfour

business manager: Marian Schrier
assistant business manager: Jo-Anne Pickel
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advertising layout & design: Robert Costain

THE McGILL DAILY

Mounds of misinformation

...continued from page 1

as a consumer's dream, its implications in terms of individual privacy are distinctly Orwellian.

"The main concerns are information manipulation, information being used for purposes about which you know nothing, or people assembling profiles on you," said Jackson. "And because it's an electronic system, it's all done without your knowledge or consent."

One concern is the phenomenon of data matching, in which personal information in various data banks is combined to make 'superfiles'. This provides a remarkably accurate portrait of an individual's activities, lifestyle, and interests, from the people you call to the type of cereal you buy at the supermarket.

"In the private sector there's no regulation with regards to data matching," said Brian Foran, Special Advisor to the Privacy Commissioner. "Retailers can hook in with retailers [they] can hook in with credit agencies or insurance companies, and can put together quite a profile, using whatever transactions you normally perform on a daily basis."

Innacurate information

In many cases personal information contained in data banks is either inaccurate, incomplete or misleading. Particularly censured for their inaccuracies are credit reporting agencies, the two largest in Canada each possessing approximately 23 million files on Canadian citizens.

"The reports I have suggest credit bureau records are notoriously erroneous, containing incorrect information," said Foran. "This can lead to an inability to get a loan, a mortgage, a job. The possibilities in having an erroneous record, which is transferred to a number of other data bases, poses a risk for people."

Although the credit agencies guarantee the right of an individual to review his or her personal file, Foran identified two weaknesses in the system.

"The theory is that you can check the accuracy of the information on your file," he said. "But not a lot of people check their records, and if they do they would need an interpreter to decode their credit file. The other problem that occurs is that credit bureau information is information they've collected from other sources. They don't take any ownership responsibility for the records that they keep."

Such 'records' may range from comments on elementary school report cards to the reports of hired private investigators. But often, said Foran, we give up this information voluntarily.

"Look at a VISA application," he said. "You may not realize it, but you've signed a pretty broad waiver of any privacy rights. You've said to them, you can use this information for whatever purpose you want, and I can't control it. You have no idea what the uses and disclosures of such information are."

Another dilligent record-keeper is the RCMP, whose Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) contains files on 10% of the Canadian adult population. CPIC and its American counterpart, the NCIC system, have been criticized for recording arrests as well as convictions, for occasionally omitting case developments (such as acquittals or dropped charges), and for not monitoring the further dissemination of the data they provide. In the case of Michael DuCross, a Native Canadian, incorrect information on his computer file led to his wrongful arrest and detention in a U.S. Marine prison. He was released five months later after the error was discovered.

Police files also raise questions about transborder data flow. Because of agreements with Interpol and the FBI (whose computer contains dossiers on eight million Americans, and is accessible to 64,000 police agencies nationally), detailed information on Canadian citizens is often transmitted internationally, thus falling outside of Canada's privacy regulations.

Sizable dossiers on individuals can also be accumulated by methods of surveillance. The National Security Agency in the US, for instance, has the computing ability to interpret and analyse 70% of all the telephone, telex, data and radio transmissions generated on the planet. The technological capabilities of the totalitarian governments of George Orwell's 1984 are, essentially, already in effect.



"While the Privacy Act gives Canadians an impressive array of access rights, it also gives government institutions a vast arsenal of exempting provisions to defeat them."

— Bruce Phillips

"The ability of the computer to collect, organize, and distribute information tends to enhance the power of the bureaucratic structures who harness the computer to achieve their goals," wrote David Burnham in 'The Rise of the Computer State'. Critics claim that detailed government knowledge on individuals inherently leads to pressure to conform. As was said during the US Senate's examination of privacy rights,

"The chilling effect of pervasive surveillance will inevitably destroy any society's capacity for dissent, non-conformity and heterodoxy. Subtract these elements from a libertarian democracy and you have totalitarianism."

Fears regarding the abuse of personal information are expressed by George Fierheller, chairman of ITAC, an organization which recently held a conference in Toronto to discuss the ramifications of the information superhighway.

"The concerns are not as much about what is happening as about what may happen," he said. "When you run into huge computers, it opens up more and more possibilities for abuse."

Such abuse includes information being stolen, as in the 1986 theft of Revenue Canada microfiches, containing personal data on 17 million taxpayers; mishandled, as when the Canada Employment Centre in Sarnia, Ont., mistakenly faxed detailed data on four individuals to the local newpaper; or studied, as in Sweden, where for 20 years sociologists examined 15,000 people without their consent, by probing government files.

Given these dangers, Fierheller says the handling of personal information should be guided by certain principles.

"People should be able to determine what information is there," he said. "Secondly they should be able to check what is there, and thirdly there should be an ombudsman to go to if you think your information is being abused."

Although many privacy principles are already codified in the Privacy Act of 1984, its effects are limited because of three factors: the power of the Privacy Commissioner is purely advisory, the private sector is not covered (except in Quebec, the first province to enact such legislation), and the individual's access to information is limited by the powers of federal agencies. Wrote Privacy Commissioner Bruce Phillips wrote in his 1992 report,

"While the Privacy Act gives Canadians an impressive array of access rights, it also gives government institutions a vast arsenal of exempting provisions to defeat them."

The Canadian situation is at least superior to that of the US, whose government possesses four billion files on its population, and where 84% of federal data banks have no legal mandate to collect the information in their possession. But, wrote Phillips, concerns about the efficacy of Canadian privacy protections remain.

"A society which casually accepts the existence of dossiers of unknown accuracy in unknown hands on millions of individuals, and with no right of access or correction, is a society which is recklessly indifferent to preserving that most basic privacy right: the right to some control over what others know about you. Yet this is the situation as it now stands."

The fear remains that with present computing abilities, the desire of business and government for personal information will go unchecked. As the head of a New York City investigative firm said,

"Privacy is an absolute myth. When you're born, the first thing they do is take a footprint and fill out a birth certificate. You go to a doctor, they keep medical records. You go to work, you buy a car or a house, there are more records. Your life is continuously open."

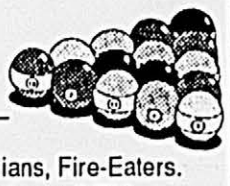
McGill Chaplaincy Presents
A Symposium on Power and Truth.
A Panel Discussion featuring
Roman Serbyn, Gregory Baum & Krisha Starker.
Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m., Leacock 232

Hillel Jewish Campus Centre

This Week at Hillel

TODAY: The Pool Table has Arrived!

- **"Esther, the Reluctant Princess,"** Text and Study with Barbara Freedman, Lecturer, Jewish Studies Department, McGill. No knowledge of Hebrew needed. Time: 12:30-1:30 PM
- **Interested in Long Term Programs in Israel?** Tina Orenstein, Shaliach, is available for your questions. Time: 12 NOON-2:00 PM
- **Registration is now taking place for a C.P.R. Course.** Sunday, March 12, 1994. Time: 1:00-5:00 PM. Proceeds to Hadasah Hospital, Jerusalem. Cost: $30. Deadline for Registration this Friday.
- **Chug Ivrit** Time: 6 PM
 Israeli Dancing Time: 7 PM
 Sponsored by P.Z.C.



TOMORROW:

- Amateur Talent Wanted: Musicians, Comedians, Fire-Eaters. **Join the Hillel Ness Café.** Information meeting at 6 PM
- **Matzoh Balls, you say... Drop by and check out the new pool balls!** Resident Pro: "Greg, the Woodmere Wonder."
- **Due to initial sellout, registration is now open for the next Washington, D.C. trip to visit the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: Saturday, April 16—Tuesday, April 19, 1994. Cost: $160.**

Cafeteria Hours: **Monday-Thursday** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. **Friday** 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

For info: 845-9171 A Constituent Agency of Federation C.J.A. HILLEL

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Hotel Hilton
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Wasting your money:

McGill Athletics

BY KUMBESAN SANDRASEGARAN

McGill Athletics are representing the interest of only five per cent of students. A major part of each student's fees goes towards athletics fascilities—a total of $1,745,289.

Of this money, Athletics spends $359,028 on twelve selected athletic teams which include badminton, soccer, basketball, swimming, hockey, football, volleyball, cross country skiing and aquatics.

A grand total of $9,000 dollars are spent on all other Athletic activities at McGill, which represent more than 95 per cent of the students. In order to recieve a small portion of money for student athletic activities one has to make an application to the Athletics department, an extremely problematic and time consuming process. This usually means that most student athletic services and clubs do not receive any funding in return for their student service fees.

As a result of this separate development policy most athletic activities of international students such as squash, rugby, cricket, track and field and field hockey are being suppressed.

Athletic Elitism

This exploitation of all full time students for the expense of a handfull of student is has been termed athletic elitism by many. Whatever you may call it, it is out of place in the 90's.

These policies at McGill Athletics started soon after McGill Administration decide to cut funding to the Athletics department. It is currently run by student service fees and donations from private corporations.

Students give McGill $1,745,289 per year for Athletics. $9,000 makes it back to general student body athletic programmes.

The latest addition to seperate development is the Weilder Weights Room. As a result of student complaints about overcrowdedness, the Athletics department diverted weight training equipment donated by the Weider family so that it could be used only by intercollegiate athletes.

McGill should change its attitude towards student athletics. The premise that McGill has to be the best university at a certain sport and thus concentrate on a few showcase sports should be rejected by any civilized person. The purpose of an Athletic department should be to provide the maximum number of people with an oppurtunity to pursue sport without dropping below a certain level of university support. Current Athletics policies make no sense.

Neither the Students' Society nor the Post Graduate Students' Society have endorsed the Athletics policy that affects all students at McGill. Another example of apathy on behalf of the Athletics department is the fact that a swimming coach recieves the same amount of money as is invested in maintainance and materials for the squash and tennis courts and weight lifting room over a three year period.

A bid to amend McGill Athletic policies was made at an Athletic Board meeting on January 25. However since there were no seconders to the motion it did not go to vote. Notables present included Mark Luz the Students' Society president, the Dean of Students and the Director of Athletics.

— Kumbesan Sandrasegaran is the post-graduate rep to the Department of Athletics board.

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- the Graduate Diploma in Taxation
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COME TO OUR INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday, March 1, 1994
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Samuel Bronfman Building
Room 426

OR WRITE OR TELEPHONE:

Department of Chartered Accountancy and Graduate Administrative Studies
McGill University
Phone: (514) 398-6154
Fax: (514) 398-4448 or 2832
Redpath Library Building, Room 211
3461 McTavish
Montréal, Québec
H3A 1Y1

McGill Centre for Continuing Education
What better place to better yourself.

Women of Montréal, the Daily wants your voices and issues to be represented in the pages of our Women's Week Special Issue, coming in early March.

Call us at 398-6784 or come down to Shatner B-03 if you have ideas and suggestions, or if you want to be assigned to write, take photos or help with production. Talk to Kris B, Liz or Mel.

Daily Publications Society Board of Directors

¡ IMPORTANT MEETING !

Wednesday, February 16th, 1994
7:00 p.m.
UNION Bldg., Room B-17
(Daily Business Office)

You know who you are!!

AGSEM / AÉDEM

Association of Graduate Students Employed at McGill
Association des Étudiant-e-s Diplômé-e-s Employé-es à McGill

Second Annual General Assembly
General Elections

Thursday, February 17th, 6 pm
rm 26 Leacock Building

Food and drinks will be served to all attendees.

This is your Union,
Your money is involved.
Please Participate.

rm 101, Eaton bldg, 3620 University St., tel: 398-2582, Email: agsem@binkley.cs.mcgill.ca

Education Undergraduate Society

The Following question shall be placed on the ballot for the Winter Referendum Period to be held on March 8, 9, 10, 1994.

The Student of the Education Undergraduate Society will contribute to the McGill 21st Century Fund in support of library materials and curriculum lab, new scholarships and workshops or projects (i.e. intercultural education, student research and classroom behaviour management). The contribution will be in the amount of $10 per semester per full-time student, and $5 per semester per part-time student. The fund will be in place for 4 years starting September 1994. (Yes/No/No Opinion)

Summer Language & Official Language Monitors

Learn - or help others to learn - Canada's Two Official Languages

Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada

Information & Applications: Student Aid, Room 200, Powell Bldg., 3637 Peel

DEADLINE TO APPLY: FEBRUARY 18, 1994

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-17, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.
McGill Students (with valid ID): $3.50 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, $2.75 per day ($11.00 per week). McGill Employees (with staff card) $4.50 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, $3.75 per day ($15.00 per week). All others: $5.00 per day, or $4.25 per day for 4 or more consecutive days ($17.00 per week). Extra charges may apply, and prices do not include applicable GST or PST. For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 – ***WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER.*** *The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.*

1 - Housing

Summer sublet from May 1st. Great 3½ on Milton (Aylmer) - 2 min. to school, 2 levels, 2 closed rooms. Hdwd. flrs., lots of storage, freshly painted. Big kitchen. $485/mth. Call 842-5124 now!

2 - Movers/Storage

Moving/Storage. Closed van or truck. Local and long distance. Ott-Tor-Van-NY-Fla. 7 days 24 hours. Cheap. Steve 735-8148.

3 - Help Wanted

NOW HIRING

Earn $900 to $2000 Plus For a 7 ½ Week Season

Have a *fun* summer at a Unique Camp in the Laurentians.

Join us for action, excitement and socializing.

QUALIFIED? EXPERIENCED?

Waterski Director	Counsellors
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Swimming	Piano Player
Canoeing	Farm & Garden Inst.
Sailing	Kitchen Manager
Baseball	Cook's Assistants
Basketball	Waiters/Waitresses
Volleyball	Registered Nurse
Soccer	Nursing Assistant
Tennis	Secretary
Gymnastics	Arts & Crafts
Aerobics	

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Fax (514) 485-1124

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Counsellors Wanted. Trim down-fitness, co-ed, NYS camp. 100 positions: sports, crafts, many others. Camp Shane, Ferndale NY 12734. (914) 292-4045.

5 - Typing Services

Word Processing. 937-8495. Term papers, résumés, forms design, correspondence, manuscripts, (Laser printing) (Photocopier) 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (7 days) (near Atwater)

Success to all students. Word-Perfect 5.1. Term papers, resumés, applications. 27 yrs. experience. $1.75/D.S.P., 7 days/week. Campus/Peel/Sherbrooke. Paulette/Roxanne 288-9638-288-0016.

Word-processing of term-papers, reports, theses etc. Word-Perfect 5.1, Laser printer. 8 years experience. Fast, professional service. Good rates. Close to McGill. Brigitte 282-0301.

A 20 yr. proven, job-targeted, customized CV: top consulting, format & print effects. Bilingual/diskette option. (ACCIS FORMS) Result Résumés: 481-7049.

6 - Services Offered

Psychotherapy for men or women. Incest, childhood abuse, rape, addiction, depression, heal from the past to go ahead. Lise Rivard M.Sc. 521-0101. Student Rate.

Resumés by MBA's. Student rates. Better Business Bureau member. 3000+ students served. Owner worked for Proctor & Gamble, Heinz and General Foods. 939-2200. Prestige (on Guy).

10 - Rides/Tickets

Spring Break-Daytona! 6 nights at H.Johnsons on the beach. Hotel only $119. Bus & hotel $259. For info + reservations: Ken 487-6585 or Heidi 288-4974. Free parties!

12 - Personal

McGILL NIGHTLINE

Lonely? Need to talk? Call McGill Nightline at 398-6246. Open seven days a week, from 6pm to 3am.

13 - Lessons/Courses

Law School. To learn about Canada's only complete pre-law educational program call 1-800-567-7737.

Walksafe is sponsoring Action Self-Defence courses for women to be held on March 12 & 13. Only $30 McGill students, $60 general public. Call 398-2498.

14 - Notices

The McGill Photographic Society invites you to enter the 16th annual photo contest. Deadline March 4. Info B06 Shatner or call 398-6786.

LBGM Weekly discussion groups: Wed. Bi-group 5:30, 5th flr. Eaton Bldg. Fri. Coming Out 5:30, General 7:00, both at UTC, 3521 University. All welcome.

Questioning your sexuality? Or do you have any other concerns and need to talk? Call the LBGM Peer Counselling Line at 398-6822 Mon. to Fri. 7 to 10 pm.

16 - Musicians

Singing Lessons - All levels & styles. Personalized creative approach. Individual & group workshops. Gain power & range control. "Reach those high notes." 488-9361.

Reclaiming a male dominated sport



DAILY GRAPHIC BY JANE TREMBLAY

BY JEANNA STEELE

In the spirit of Jean Claude van Damme comes Hilary Porter punching, kicking and teaching her sport to women at Montréal's Tri-Star Gym. Porter reclaims a male dominated sport and empowers women to channel their aggression into self-defense.

The portrayal of the aggressive and offensive sport in the film *Kick Boxer* is apparently fairly acccurate in terms of brutality. Kickboxing is born from a merging of Chinese boxing and karate, which, while incorporating great defensive tactics, are both 98% offensive. In kickboxing, fighters win by scoring points and by remaining evasive.

Porter maintains that exercises such as aerobics have bored women. She suggests that aerobics involves, "getting in good shape but not using your head." In contrast, kick-boxing encourages a change in attitude.

"Your confidence level goes up because you're not being judged," says Porter. "The women are surprised about how quick the results are. They are doing round house kicks after one lesson."

To score, fighters must make contact with their hands and feet on their opponent's head, stomach or side. Especially effective, says Porter, is a side shot to the liver. A left hook or round house can accomplish this, leading to the final knock-out.

According to Porter, the final knock-out is the most attractive aspect of kickboxing in terms of women's self-defense. Generally, programs aimed at teaching women to defend themselves focus on female vulnerability. Incorporating self-defense into kick boxing replaces the notion of the woman as victim with that of the woamn in control.

Simple words like punching, kicking or fighting carry a subconscious association with them which does not include women. The underlying idea is that these actions are too aggressive for women.

Women's kick boxing is an empowering sport which gives women practical experience both physical and mental. Jean Claude van Damme, watch out!

Kickboxing classes for women are held twice a week, on Thursdays from 19h to 20h30 and on Sundays from 16h to 17h30. A kickboxing membership costs $149I for 3 months, $249 for 6 months and $299 for a year. With a membership you get full use of the gym. Tri-star gym is located at 4058 Jean Talon West (Namur metro) and their phone number is 343-0148.

SURVEY

We invite our readers to answer this survey. Let us know what you're thinking!

1. Are you
❑ a full-time student
❑ a part-time student
❑ a faculty member
❑ a non-academic staff member
❑ not associated with McGill

2. What is your program/year/occupation?

_____ / ____ / _____

3. Are you
❑ anglophone ❑ francophone ❑ allophone

4. Age: _____

5. Sex:_____

6. How often do you read the Daily?
a) How often do you read the news editions (published Monday and Wednesday)?
❑ twice a week
❑ once a week
❑ once a month or more
❑ very rarely
❑ never

b) How often do you read the Daily Français edition (published Tuesdays)?
❑ every week
❑ once a month or more
❑ very rarely
❑ never

c) How often do you read the Culture edition (published Thursdays)
❑ every week
❑ once a month or more
❑ very rarely
❑ never

d) How often do you read the following sections?

editorials/comments	classifieds
❑ always	o always
❑ sometimes	❑ sometimes
❑ rarely	❑ rarely
❑ never	❑ never
letters/hyde parks	events listings
❑ always	❑ always
❑ sometimes	❑ sometimes
❑ rarely	❑ rarely
❑ never	❑ never

7. Would you like to see more or less of the following in the Daily?

student politics news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

McGill news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

city news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

national news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

provincial news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

international news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

education news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Women's news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Science news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Anti-racism news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Disabled news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Sports news
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

music reviews
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

movie reviews
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

book reviews
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

art reviews
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

humour
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

Special Issues (for example: Black History month, Women's week, etc.)
❑ more
❑ less
❑ fine the way it is now
❑ don't care

8. What do you think of the "look" of the paper?
❑ Love it
❑ Like it
❑ dislike it
❑ Hate it
❑ Don't care

9. Do you agree with the following statements:
a) "The Daily is a good thing to have on campus."?
❑ Agree strongly
❑ Agree somewhat
❑ no opinion
❑ Disagree somewhat
❑ Disagree strongly

b) "The Daily does a good job"
❑ Agree strongly
❑ Agree somewhat
❑ no opinion
❑ Disagree somewhat
❑ Disagree strongly

10. What other campus publications do you read? How often?

11. Do you work?
❑ part-time ❑ full-time

12. Do you use coupons/promotional items advertized in the Daily?
❑ often ❑ rarely ❑ never

13. What bars/pubs/restaurants/clubs/etc. do you frequent?

14. At what location do you usually pick up the paper?

Additional comments/suggestions (use another sheet if necessary)

Please return completed surveys to the Daily offices, Shatner Building, 3480 McTavish, room B-03, H3A 1X9 or fax them at 398-8318